



Satellite image with enhanced low cloud-top temperatures (degrees C) for 7:15 a.m. EDT (NOAA)

### **Agricultural Weather Highlights - Wednesday - November 19, 2003**

- ***In the West***, locally heavy rainfall persists across ***western Washington***, where local flooding continues. Mild, dry weather prevails elsewhere in the ***West***, following recent, beneficial precipitation.
- ***On the Plains***, mild, dry weather continues to adversely affect the winter wheat crop, some of which remains poorly established as the overwintering period approaches. However, dry conditions on the ***southern High Plains*** favor cotton, sorghum, and peanut harvesting.
- ***In the Corn Belt***, wet conditions and lingering rain showers continue to slow corn harvesting across ***eastern portions of the region***, especially in ***Michigan***. Elsewhere in the ***Midwest***, mild, dry weather favors a return to final autumn fieldwork.
- ***In the South***, showers and thunderstorms are slowing fieldwork in the ***southern Atlantic States*** and across ***interior portions of the region***. Farther west, recent soil moisture improvements are aiding pastures and winter grains from the ***western Gulf Coast region to the Delta***.

**Outlook:** Later this week, heavy rain will yield to clearing skies and mild weather across the ***eastern one-third of the U.S.***, as a cold front sweeps off the ***Atlantic Coast***. However, scattered showers may linger into Friday across the ***Northeast***. Meanwhile, a high-pressure system will maintain mild, mostly dry conditions across the ***western two-thirds of the nation***, although locally heavy precipitation and colder weather will accompany a slow-moving cold front across the ***Pacific Northwest and northern Rockies***. By week's end and into early next week, sharply colder air will overspread the ***north-central U.S.***, setting the stage for possibly significant snowfall. The NWS 6-10 day outlook for November 24-28 calls for above-normal precipitation across the ***eastern half of the U.S.*** and the ***Northwest***, while drier-than-normal conditions are expected in the ***Rockies and Plains***. Above-normal temperatures are forecast in the ***nation's northeastern quadrant***, while cooler-than-normal weather will return to the ***Rockies and Plains***.

**Contact:** Brad Rippey, Agricultural Meteorologist, USDA/OCE/WAOB, Washington, D.C. (202-720-2397)

**Web Site:** <http://www.usda.gov/oce/waob/jawf/AgWxHighlights/TODAYSWX.PDF>